IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions or listings of claims pending in the application:

1. (currently amended) A carrier for allowing a user to carry a chromatographic column assembly comprising a support structure and a wound tubular chromatographic column mounted on the support structure, the carrier including at least one connecting part for connecting the carrier to the ~~chromatographic column assembly~~ support structure.

2. (original) A carrier according to claim 1, wherein the carrier is in the form of a strip.

3. (original) A carrier according to claim 1, wherein at least one connecting part comprises an aperture in the carrier.

4. (currently amended) A carrier according to claim 1, including a further connecting part for connecting the carrier to a further chromatographic column assembly comprising a further support structure and a further wound chromatographic column mounted on the further support structure.

5. (original) A carrier according to claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises metal.

6. (original) A carrier according to claim 1, wherein the carrier includes at least one part adapted for mounting a chromatographic column connecter thereon.

7. (original) A carrier according to claim 1, wherein the carrier includes at least one part for displaying information.

8. (currently amended) A carrier according to claim 1, including a device for holding a ~~chromatic~~ chromatographic column.

9. (original) A carrier according to claim 1, including a measurement indicia.

10. (original) In combination, a carrier according to claims 1 or 2, and at least one chromatographic column assembly, comprising a structure around which a chromatographic column is wound.

11. (original) The combination of claim 10, wherein the structure includes one or more connectors for connecting to the carrier.

12. (currently amended) A combination of claim 11, wherein ~~the or~~ each connector comprises a hook.

13. (original) A combination of claim 10, wherein the structure comprises upper and lower annular members connected by a plurality of connecting bars, at least one of which forms the one or more connectors.

14. (currently amended) A strip form ~~part -~~ handle for ~~use with -said~~ connecting to a winding structure ~~of a~~ on which a chromatographic column is mounted, equipped with at least two clips to hold chromatographic column ends.

15. (currently amended) A strip form ~~part -~~ handle for ~~use with~~ connecting to a winding structure ~~of a~~ on which a chromatographic column is mounted, wherein the strip form handle contains chromatographic column identification information.

16. (currently amended) A strip form ~~part -~~ handle for ~~use with~~ connecting to a winding structure ~~of a~~ on which a chromatographic column is mounted, wherein the strip form ~~part~~ handle contains a ruler for measuring column insertion length.

17. (new) A chromatography column apparatus comprising:

a first chromatographic column assembly comprising a first winding structure and a first tubular gas chromatographic column wound around the first winding structure; and

a strip-shaped carrier attached to the first winding structure substantially at two opposite ends of the carrier, for allowing a user to carry the chromatographic column apparatus.

18. (new) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising a second chromatographic column assembly comprising a second winding structure and a second tubular gas chromatographic column wound around the second winding structure, wherein the second winding structure is positioned concentrically within the first winding structure and is attached to the carrier.

19. (new) A gas chromatography method comprising:

winding a first tubular gas chromatographic column around a first winding structure to form a first chromatographic column assembly;

attaching an elongate, strip-shaped carrier to the winding structure substantially at two opposite ends of the carrier, for allowing a user to carry the first chromatographic column assembly; and

passing a gas through the chromatographic column.

20. (new) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

winding a second tubular gas chromatographic column around a second winding structure to form a second chromatographic column assembly;

disposing the second chromatographic column assembly concentrically within the first chromatographic column assembly; and

attaching the carrier to the second winding structure.